Memoandum by Gujarat

4914. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Gujarat has requested for additional Central assistance in the Memorandum submitted to Government;

(b) whether Government are in receipt of Memorandum on scarcity from other States also;

(c) if so, States and amount demanded, State-wise;

(d) whether Government have decided to grant special Central assistance over and above to CRF in case of U.P. and A.P. for natural calamities to CRF; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The Government of Gujarat had submitted a Memorandum in September, 1994, seeking Central assistance of Rs. 303.50 crores for relief measures in the wake of heavy rains and floods during South West Monsoon 1994.

(b) and (c) The Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka had submitted Memoranda during 1994-95 seeking Central assistance of Rs. 344.00 crores and 231.70 crores respectively for relief measures in the wake of drought conditions. A request has recently been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh also for release of the entire Central share of CRF for 1995-96 and additional assistance of Rs. 65.00 crores for drought relief measures.

(d) and (e) Under the existing scheme of financing relief expenditure, the State Government are required to undertake relief measures in the wake of natural calamities using the annual allocations of Calamitiy Relief Fund. Government of India do not provide any additional assistance for this purpose. The Central share of Calamity Relief Fund due in 1994-95 has been released to all the State Governments. The first quarterly instalment for 1995-96 has also been released to enable the State Governments to continue the relief measures.

On-farm research by ICAR

4915. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR has been conducting On-farm Research;

(b) to what extent has ICAR been successful in On-farm Research;

(c) whether OFR isbeing conducted on new rice strains in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recently introduced the On-farm Research/trails concept as one of mandatory functions of KVKs. The results are encouraging.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A few On-farm Research/trials on Hybrid Rice Production programme has been carried out at KVK Gaddipalli, District Nalgonda. The trials were taken on APHR-I, APHR-II, VHR-I, VHR-II. 20 On-farm trials were organised on farmers fields. On an average the Hybrid rice trials have resulted 30-40 per cent additional yield.